

Please delete the current abstract and substitute therefor:

--Polynucleotides encoding connective tissue growth factor (CTGF) are provided. An exemplary polynucleotide of the invention is shown in SEQ ID NO:1. Expression vectors containing CTGF polynucleotide and host cells containing such expression vectors are also included in the invention.--

REMARKS

The following remarks and amendments are in response to the Office Action mailed October 11, 1995. Claims 5, 9 and 11 have been amended. Claim 5 has been amended to further define the CTGF polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of the claimed invention. Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice and Applicant retains the right to pursue the subject matter of this claim in a later filed divisional or continuation application. The claim was canceled solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution of the pending claims and should not be viewed as an admission against Applicant's interest with respect to the invention described in the present specification. New claims 29 and 30 have been added to further define the polynucleotide of claim 5. No new matter has been added. Claims 5-7, 9-13 and 29-30 are pending.

The title and the abstract have been amended to better define the claimed invention.

Applicant has deleted the underlining on pages 2 and 5 of the filed application as they were inadvertently penciled in during prosecution of the parent case and not erased before filing the present divisional application. Applicant will resubmit a declaration by the inventors if necessary, however, it is believed that deletion of the lines should be sufficient to overcome the rejection.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's amendment to the cross reference of the parent application indicating that the application issued as Patent No. 5,408,040.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application.